

# The Blurb

A Publication of

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.

c/o 641 Kismet Road, Philadelphia, PA 19115-1114



JACK HARING  
VIRGINIA HARING - W3IIN  
2113 Edgehill Drive  
Furlong PA 18925-1101

W3IIM R

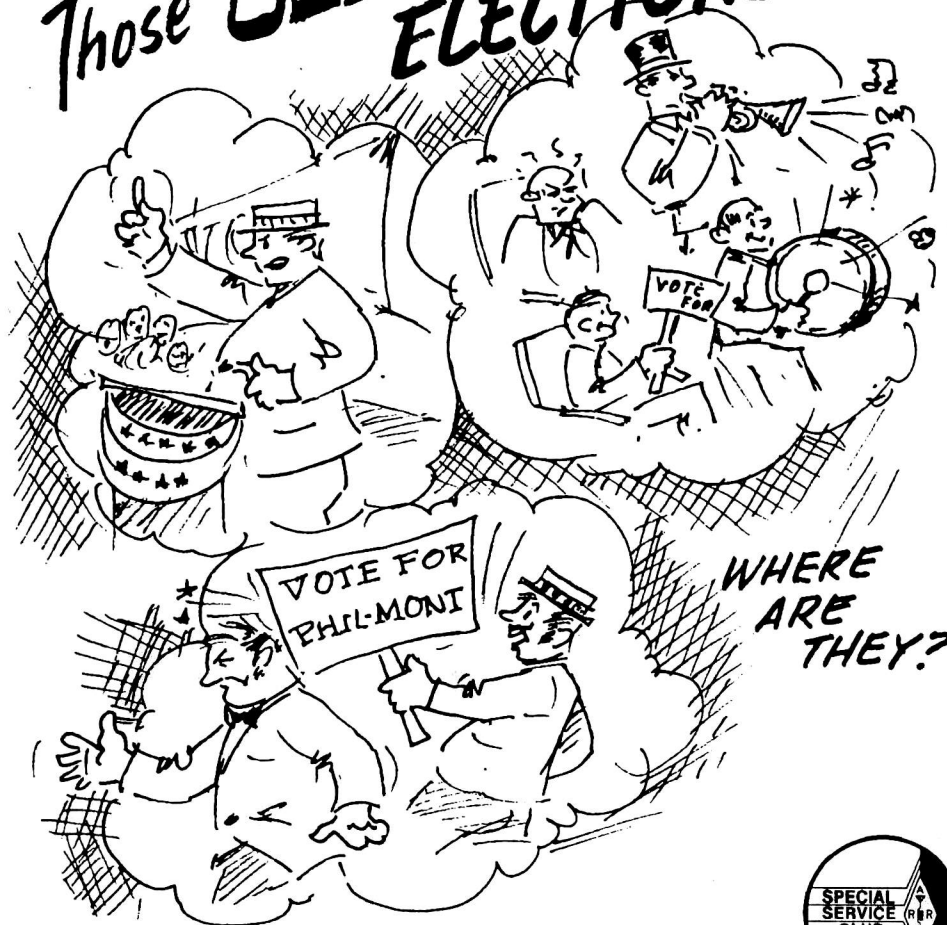
FIRST CLASS MAIL



# The Blurb

DECEMBER 1996

## Those OLD TIME ELECTIONS



Public Service Since 1949



## VOLUME 46

is published monthly by, and for, the members of **The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.** whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to nonmembers for \$10 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets sometime after 7:30 p.m. on the first non-holiday Wednesday of every month at **The Franklin Institute Science Museum**, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Enter from Winter Street or the parking garage on 21st street. **ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!** Amateur Radio License Examinations are held on the first non-holiday Thursday of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum—doors close at 6:30 p.m.—**SHARP!**

## CLUB INFORMATION

**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

**Internet Web site:** <http://www.comcat.com/pmrc>

**E-mail:** [pmrc@comcat.com](mailto:pmrc@comcat.com)

**2-meter repeater:** 147.03 MHz (Main site Roxborough receiver requires no PL, but outputs 91.5 Hz.)

**Additional off-site receivers require the following subaudible tones:**

Southampton 131.8 Hz—Center City 103.5 Hz—Lansdale 114.8 Hz—Broomall 85.4 Hz

**70cm repeater:** 444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)

**Simplex:** 147.51 MHz

**24-hour club information at W3AA:** 215-448-1139

## STATIONS

**W3QV** - 147.03 MHz, repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB

**W3EM** - Field Day and special events station - Trustee W3VVS

**W3AA** - (Formerly W3TKQ) The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee WU3I  
The club sponsors this world-class demonstration station, and welcomes all licensed amateurs to operate it.

**W3AA packet BBS frequency:** 144.99 MHz: w3aa@w3aa.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

**W3AA e-mail:** w3aa@fi.edu

## OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** WU3I, Steve Hoch, 4638 Oakland Street, Philadelphia, PA 19124 215-535-8061

[shoch@comcat.com](mailto:shoch@comcat.com)—w3i@w3aa.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

**1st VICE PRESIDENT:** N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128 215-487-9472

[billpopovic@msn.com](mailto:billpopovic@msn.com)

**2nd VICE PRESIDENT:** KA4LIF, Thom Scott, 7034 Gillespie Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 215-331-1118  
[scott.tom@forum.va.gov](mailto:scott.tom@forum.va.gov)—ka4lif@ke3cz.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

**SECRETARY:** AA3CH, Russ Stafford, RD-1 Box 426, New Castle, DE 19720 610-497-4590

[russ@hdj.com](mailto:russ@hdj.com)—aa3ch@aa3ch.#sepa.pa.usa.noam

**TREASURER:** KB3IV, Ed Masarsky, 15 Poe Avenue, Wyncote, PA 19095 215-572-5238

## DIRECTORS

AA3EP (97); K3GNM (97); W3BBB (96); W3RM (96); N3GMH (A); K3KUD (A); W3QZO (A)

## COMMITTEES

**Archives:** W3IIN

**Audit:** ~ ~ ~

**Blurb Folding:** WB3KOH&J

**Budget:** K3KUD

**Directory:** WB3KOJ

**Education:** AA3CH

**Emerg. Coord.:** W3BBB

**Field Day:** N3IEI

**Membership:** KA4LIF

**Net Control:** KB3IV

**Program:** N3FVI

**Publicity:** N3IEI

**Refreshments:** N3FVI

**Repeater:** W3BBB

**Special Events:** AA3EP

**VE Program:** ND3Q

**TVI:** W3VVS

**W3AA:** KB3IV

**Welcome:** ~ ~ ~

## Blurb STAFF

**Editor:** W3IIM, Jack Haring

2113 Edgehill Drive, Furlong, PA 18925

215-794-7623

[w3iim@chmc.com](mailto:w3iim@chmc.com)

**Artist:** N3QIE (468th issue)

**Labels:** WB3KOJ

**DEADLINE:** To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy MUST be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

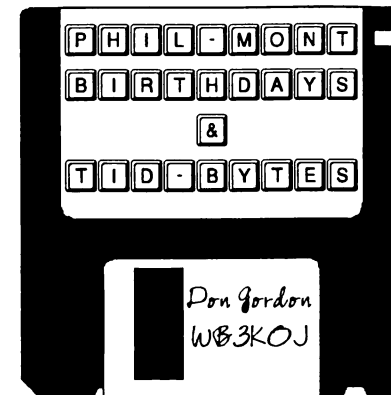
## NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET
LAST WED	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	W3AA OPERATORS' NET

## NUMBER 12

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 02 Don Gordon - WB3KOJ  
Patricia Katz (XYL N3OWM)  
06 Susie Lada - N3FTY  
08 Angelo Drammissi - K3YUN  
Al Rowland - W3JIL  
Jules Stein - KB3AFH\*  
09 Jim Bock - K3PHC  
13 Bill Bianco - KA3ZHB  
15 Byron Peebles - NZ3O  
19 Larry Stevenson - KD3QE  
20 Frank Lewis - N3DGU  
Mike Tannenbaum - K2BN\*  
21 Rick Spencer - N3DHI  
23 Geoff Mendelson - N3OWJ  
24 Marty Weinberg - WP4MSX  
25 Len Hughes - AA3EQ\*  
Jim McCloskey - KE3OP  
27 Jim Spencer - W3BBB  
28 Betty King (XYL W3PXY)  
29 Adam O'Donnell - N3RCS  
Sal Valente - NS3Y  
31 Rheba Bock (XYL W3PHC)  
\*Indicates New Member 95-96



## MEMBERSHIP STATS

165 Fully paid  
22 Family  
3 Honorary  
2 Pending

## NEW CALLS

The "gate" opened and here's what came in:

OLD	NEW
W3QZO	----- W3NE
W2GMA	----- N2MT
K3JJO	----- W3UK
AA3JZ	----- W3NM
KG2DO	----- KR2G
AA3EQ	----- W3LEN

## HELP PHIL-MONT

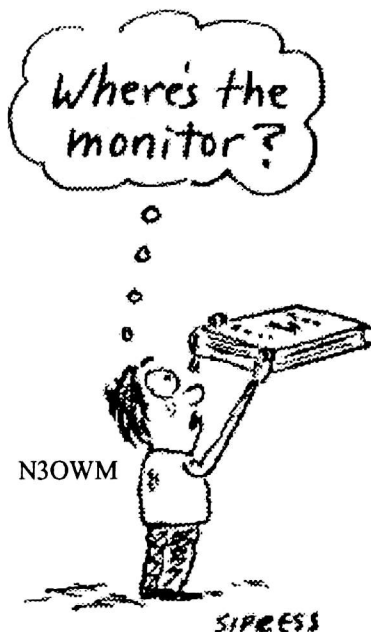
Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership?  
Help P.M.R.C. by joining or renewing through the club,  
contact the Treasurer, Ed Masarsky for details.

## IMPORTANT DUES NOTICE

This year, invoices will be included with your January Blur.

Dues are still due by the end of February 1997

**"DON'T TAILGATE... WAIT"—for the courtesy ☺!**



N3OWM

## NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

CALL: **N3XUY**  
 NAME: **Ronald Cella**  
 HANDLE: **Ronnie**  
 CLASS: **Technician**  
 ADDRESS: **2313 S. Croskey Street  
 Philadelphia, PA  
 19145**  
 OCCUPATION: **Retired**  
 HOME PHONE: **215-463-1678**  
 BUSINESS PHONE:  
 E-MAIL:  
 PACKET:  
 INTERESTS:

## Absentee Ballot

If you can't attend the meeting, but would still like to cast your ballot for next year's Directors, send your selections to our Judge of Elections, W3BBB, via telegram or letter, or call him directly at 215-362-5172. You may also send e-mail to "pmrc@comcat.com" and the editor will confidentially forward your ballot to "The Judge." The only contest is for Director. Vote for four.

W3BBB ✓

KA4LIF ✓

W3RM ✓

K3KUD ✓

WA3NSP ✓

WU3I ✓

## The PREZ SEZ

Steve Hoch, WU3I



It's December again. 'Seems like it was just December just 12 months ago or so, but what do I know? I have been Quacking and limping around for the last couple of months (lame duck syndrome) trying to get a few more things accomplished before the winter months clamp down on us. We thought that we were going to get the first storm of the season, and it wasn't even Thanksgiving. Well we got past that, and the weather warmed up some but.....

We still need a coordinator for

the 50th Anniversary Bash of the Club in 1999. Someone will step forward (I hope) and make this a night to remember.

The holidays will soon be upon us, and I would like to wish all of you very HAPPY HOLIDAYS, and best wishes for the coming year. I won't be far away. Just turn back a few pages further to the W3AA report and there I am.

Join me for the Annual Meeting on December fourth for the General Elections. Remember vote early, and vote often.

## General Meeting Program Elections

and

**Phil-Mont's first "TOWN MEETING"** which will take place immediately following the election.

The new officers will take their place at the front of the auditorium, and members will have the opportunity to have a dialogue with them about events planned for the coming year, as well as any questions they may have about the future direction of the club.

According to the Bylaws (the newest version will be available at the meeting), this meeting is designated *"The Annual Meeting of The Association."* Where better to meet with your new officers to help them chart the future of the club?

Please plan to attend, vote, and participate in your club's future planning!

## UPCOMING

- Dec 4     **General Meeting  
Election Night  
"Town Meeting"**
- Dec 5     License Examinations at  
The Franklin Institute
- Dec 18    Directors' Meeting at  
W3NE's  
~~~
- Jan 2     License Examinations at  
The Franklin Institute
- Jan 8     **General Meeting  
AUCTION!**
- Jan 15    Directors' Meeting at  
N3FTC & WU3I's

## HAMFESTS

- 1997  
July 15     KIMBERTON, PA  
MARC's "Valley Forge Hamfest"

**Federal Communications Commission**  
1270 Fairfield Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>  
**License Information**  
800-322-1117—M-F 0800-1630  
**Fax-On-Demand**  
202-418-0177

## V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring the original, and one photocopy of their license. All applicants, including children, must two means of positive ID. Also bring the original, and a copy, of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1996 test fee is \$6.05; there is no charge for a Novice test. (The fee for 1997 will be \$6.25)

- **THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE**  
Monthly, 1st Thursday—Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q  
215- 879-0505 day, 215- 448-1139 24-hours
- **BELLMAR, NJ**  
William O'Donnell  
609-939-3032
- **BRISTOL**  
George LeNoir  
215-943-4886
- **LINWOOD, PA—(Commercial & Amateur Exams.)**  
Russ Stafford, AA3CH  
610-497-4590
- **NORRISTOWN**  
Raymond Patton  
610-279-1897
- **TELFORD**  
Joseph Burgess  
215-723-6697
- **UNIVERSITY OF PA**  
Jeff DePolo  
215- 898-8538 shack, 215-337-7383 home
- **WARMINSTER**  
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ  
(215) 343-3494
- **WILMINGTON**  
Giselle Walls  
302-478-2757

## PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Charlie Weigand, AA3EP (610) 323-1050  
Russ Stafford, russ@hdj.com

- Dec 1     Brian's run  
April 13   M.S. walk  
April 20   M.S. walk  
Sept 27-28 M.S. 150 city to shore bike tour

**Carol Sebzda, N3PVO**  
*Secretary*

I passed my novice and technician class tests in May of 1993, and received my call N3PVO.

I became a member of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club in November of 1993, and upgraded to technician-plus in May of 1994.

For three years, I have been an active participant in Field Day, and this past September participated as a volunteer radio operator for the MS CITY TO SHORE event.

Employed by Computer Hardware Maintenance Co. as Warranty Administrator, I also oversee the daily operations of the parts department.

I have a daughter (Jennifer) who is 15 years old.

When elected to office, I would like to encourage club members to become more involved, and make Phil-Mont Radio Club the number one club in the area. ☺

**Michael Tannenbaum, K2BN**  
*Treasurer*

I was first licensed as a Novice and Technician in April 1952. My first call was K2ABZ. Subsequently I obtained the General, Advanced and in 1968 the Extra class. In 1977 I changed my call to K2BN.

I was active in the founding of two New York area repeaters and served as the treasurer for one of them, the Plaza Repeater Group.

In my professional career, I became a CPA and specialized in the design and installation of management information systems.

In 1992 my wife Alice WA2BTB and I started A.G. Tannenbaum specializing in electronic service data and parts. At first this was a part time activity for me however it has grown rapidly and by 1994 we were looking for more space.

In 1995 we moved to the Philadelphia area and have become active in the Phil-Mont club.

When elected to the treasurer's position, I expect to apply my accounting system skills to establishing a formal recordkeeping system with a goal of creating records which can be audited. As I gain knowledge of the club's financial affairs I hope to be able to contribute to the club's budgeting procedures. ☺

## NEWSLETTERS EXCHANGED

Anne Arundel Radio Club (Maryland)  
Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS)  
Cherryville Repeater Association (New Jersey)  
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (DLARC)  
Delmont Radio Club  
Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club (Florida)  
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)  
Penn Wireless Association  
R F Hill Amateur Radio Club  
Sanibel Amateur Radio Emergency Unit (Florida)  
Tampa Amateur Radio Club  
Warminster Amateur Radio Club  
Worldradio Magazine  
*Exchanges with additional parties are welcomed.*

**CLUB INFORMATION**  
24 Hour Information Number at W3AA  
**(215) 448-1139**



more. I took the Advanced, passed, and immediately tried for the Extra. I passed the code without problems but did very badly on the written portion. The next time I took the Extra I passed.

The two best things that have happened to me in a very long time are, first and most important, is that two years ago I met Chris (N3WCO), who has been great for me, and I hope to share the rest of my life with her. The second is my grandson Mike who doesn't have his ticket, but he's still too little.

My interests in ham radio include emergency communications and public service. To my credit, I've been Vice President of the Goldsboro-Wayne ARC, President of D.V.A.R.S., and the 96 Over-The-Hill Gang, and Secretary of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio club.

My other interests, aside from ham radio are flying and trains.

I hope to have our club grow and be the best ham radio club in the Delaware Valley. This club was founded on the advancement of amateur radio and that is exactly what we plan to do. As your President, I will bring what I've learned in the business arena and make a strong and growing club. ☺

## Bill Chedeville, W3GQD Vice President

**M**y interest in radio dates back to when I was a ten year old. I passed my novice test at age sixteen and was assigned WN3GQD. One year later, I became W3GQD with a general class license. Novice was not renewable way back then! Presently, I hold an advanced class license. My career started in a lawn mower repair shop and quickly changed into the electronics field where I have been employed by three companies, the latest being Computer Hardware Maintenance Company in Langhorne, Pa. My wife, Jackie and I have been married twenty eight years and have three children and one grandson. I have been active in PMRC since 1968. I have held the posts of Vice President and Secretary in Phil-Mont in past years. If elected to the position of Vice President of Phil-Mont, I will be planning exciting program meetings for 1997. I will be supporting the members interests and our party's elected officers and directors. It will be an exciting 1997 at Phil-Mont! ☺

**Call**  
**1-800-32-NEW-HAM**  
for free information for  
prospective hams

## MINUTES

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING  
Russ Stafford, AA3CH, Secretary



**O**ur 561st General meeting was opened at the Choices Forum at the Franklin Institute promptly at 20:00 by Steve (WU3I), President.

After a welcome to all the old timers and the families of the members, Steve led the following discussions:

Mid-Month will be held at the home of N3KQH & NS3Y.

The Franklin Institute will start camp-ins. If you would like to help staff W3AA during the camp-ins please contact Steve.

W3AA - Steve reported that the 70 watt ATV intercom was installed. The 6 meter Omni and Beam are up and waiting for a new 6-meter radio. Steve and Ed had a meeting with Kenwood, and we may get a TS-60 all-mode 6-meter rig.

Steve extended a big thank you to N3QIE for his many years as your *Blurb* cartoonist. GREAT JOB!

Treasurer - Ed (KB3IV) reported the starting balance at \$423.25, income of \$109.00, expenses \$526.32, and an ending balance of \$5.93. Ed also reported on net controls. HELP is needed for CW net controls. If you would like a nice club jacket see Ed (too bad they don't come in 'extra

moose') it takes about 12 to make an order.

Budget - (K3KUD). The meeting will be held on 11/20.

Repeater - Rick (N3DHI). The OS-4 off-site receiver in Broomall, PA has been repaired. The auto patch auto dial codes for the police have been changed. You must get the new ones from a control operator.

Public Service - Charlie (AA3EP). We still need a lot of help on 12/1 at Brian's Run in West Chester, PA. This is a small event so it will only take about two hours, but we are still in great need of your help. Please contact Charlie A.S.A.P.

VEC testing will now be held at the 'Lunch Box' which is located on the first floor near the Winter Street door in the Franklin Institute.

Nominating committee - Jeff (KE3UV) reported on the folks running for PMRC office. Please see the list here in the *Blurb*. Don't forget to come out and vote! Otherwise, don't complain on the way the club is run next year. If you would like to put your name in the hat contact Jeff (KE3UV).

Steve closed the meeting at 20:40 hrs, and opened the floor to our presenter from ComCAT.

## MINUTES

## NOVEMBER DIRECTORS' MEETING

Russ Stafford, AA3CH, Secretary

The November Mid-Month meeting was called to order by our President, Steve (WU3I) at the home of N3KQH & NS3Y at 20:00 hours.

We had a discussion on the state of the treasury. The invoices for 1997 membership will be mailed with the January *Blurb* which will be mailed out in late December.

Budget - (K3KUD) will meet next week to work out a budget for 1997.

*Blurb* - Jack (W3IIM) reported on the cost of the mailing, printing, etc. It has been decided that the *Blurb* will go on being printed every month in its present form. The deadline for the January issue is 12/11.

Repeaters - Jim (W3BBB) the Center City input has not been moved, and for the time being it is OK. Still no word from the city on the move of the main 147.03 site. The emergency auto-dial numbers have been changed. You must see one of the control operators off the air to get the new numbers! W3BBB, N3DHI, W3RM or KB3IV.

Old Business - Jack reported that the new bylaws will be available at the December meeting. They will not be mailed; instead you must pick up your copy at a General Meeting.

We voted on a Youth committee, moved

and seconded. We now have a new Youth committee for 1997.

W3AA - Steve (WU3I). The ATV 70-watt intercom radio is installed. The new W3AA QSL cards are here but are misspelled and must be reprinted. The 6-meter omni and beam are up on the roof, and awaiting a radio to attach. We are waiting to hear from Kenwood on the TS-60 all-mode for W3AA.

New business - Steve read a letter that was sent to Little Lou's bar to ask if we could have their Rohn 25-G tower. It is down and just needs to be removed. Little Lou [*himself*] wrote back and said we could have the tower.

Membership - One new member was voted on, and that is my good friend Len (AA3EQ) now (W3LEN). Welcome to the team Len!

Dick (W3RM) stated that the FCC will not be sending-out renewals when your ticket runs out. But, for a fee, W5YI will send them out and file your renewal for you. [*And don't forget 'KOJ's reminders!-ed*]

Absentee Ballots - Jim (W3BBB). The ballots will not be mailed out. Check with him on how you can vote, if you can't attend the meeting.

The meeting was closed at 22:04 hours.

## Meet Your New Officers

Russ Stafford, AA3CH

President

I have been around ham radio all my life. I grew up with my grandparents on a large farm in North Carolina. My grandfather was a longtime ham, he taught me code at a very young age. I took classes at the Goldsboro-Wayne ARC and got my Novice ticket. At that time you had one year to upgrade. This meant, back to the club for classes.

In those days we did not have VEC testing, so you had to go to the FCC. The problem with this was that in North Carolina there was no FCC office so we had to travel to Norfolk, VA. After the classes the club car-pooled to the FCC. Boy, you needed to know everything, because there was no way of knowing what was on the test! You couldn't go to Radio Shack and buy a book (Radio Shack didn't exist yet!).

Well I passed my General. There was no reason at that time to get a Technician, since there were no 2-meter repeaters.

After a few more years of playing on the low bands I found myself hanging around the local radio station, WGOL. The station owner told me one day that if I got my third class radio telephone he would give me a job. This would be my first nonagricultural job. Of course, my grandfather said as long as I kept up with my chores around the farm I could work for WGOL.

I worked there until my last year of high school. I received a football scholarship to the University of Delaware,

and once I settled-in at the University, I went looking for a job.

The General Manager of the radio station WAMS in Wilmington said the third class wasn't enough. (WGOL was a 500 watt Omni, daytime only). WAMS was a five stick (10,000 watt) big city station, and I would need to get a second class. Well, more studying, then try to find the FCC which was located in the Customs House, room 1005 at 2nd and Chestnut St., Philadelphia. This is, by the way, where I first met Joe Welch.

I took the second class test, passed, and I got the job at WAMS. In about a year, I upgraded to first class. This worked out very well, in fact, at one time I was working full-time at WAMS, and part-time for WNRK and WSER. Though I didn't make a lot of money working at all three stations.

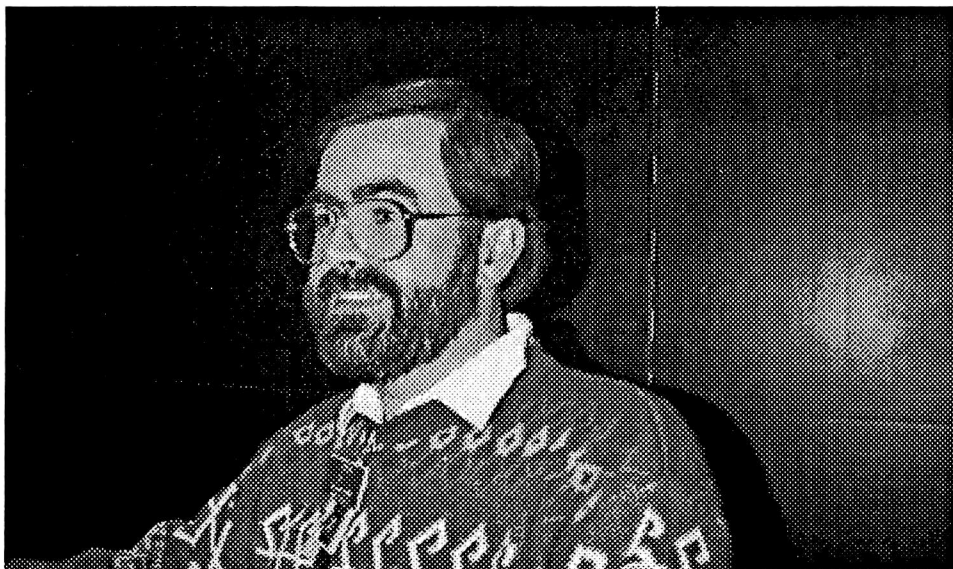
During this time I met Gail KA3DPB. I graduated from college with a BSEE, and went into the Marine Corps, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant. Gail and I were married and we had two children, Holly KA3MSJ and Dave KE3RL.

When the Vietnam war ended I came home and started a small business part-time while I worked at two full-time jobs to feed the family. It was then that we found out that Gail had Cancer. These were bad times but ham radio got me through. Sadly, Gail passed away.

I began working on the business full-time as it was growing. I then finally broke down and hit the books once



(by row) 1-W3STW, W3NE; 2-Elaine Spencer, K3GNM, K3KUD;  
3-AA3CH; 4-N3XKW, N3WCO; 5-N3FTC



*Chef Stephen*

## 139<sup>TH</sup> MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS NOVEMBER

19 candidates took 32 elements  
5 new amateurs plus 3 upgrades

VE team members:

**Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q, Chairman**

Jim Lear, KB3AIS; Walt Bauhof, KB3BHE; Sam Lewis, N3GPQ;  
Arnie Cooper, AA3HO; Darryl Russell, AA3NV; Jim McCloskey, KE3OP;  
Wally Newell, W3UK; Jeff Kerber, KE3UV; Bob Freer, W3YLT

**AMATEUR LICENSE EXAMS HELD ON THE FIRST  
NON-HOLIDAY THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

Registration begins at 6:00 PM

Doors close at 6:30 PM sharp

**THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE  
SCIENCE MUSEUM**



For Information Call ND3Q at  
(215) 448-1139 or 879-0505  
Accessible by the handicapped.



## Advance Notice

**What:** The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club will host a **Ham Radio Auction** at its January 8th meeting.

**Place:** The Franklin Institute, 20th and The Ben Franklin Parkway

**Time:** 17:00 hrs local

**Rules:** This is to be a fun auction. Only ham radio and computer related items will be permitted. You will have to preregister all items to be sold. You must identify whether it's working or not, and list its make and model. There will be a form in the January *Blurb*, as well as at the auction.

*All equipment MUST be removed the night of the auction.*

**Terms:** The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club will retain 10% of the sale price up to a maximum of \$30 per item.

If you need more information please contact Russ (AA3CH) at one of the following:

Packet: AA3CH@AA3CH.#SEPA.PA.USA.NOAM

Internet: russ@hdj.com Phone: (610) 631-3401

Tell your buddies, this should be a fun night for all!

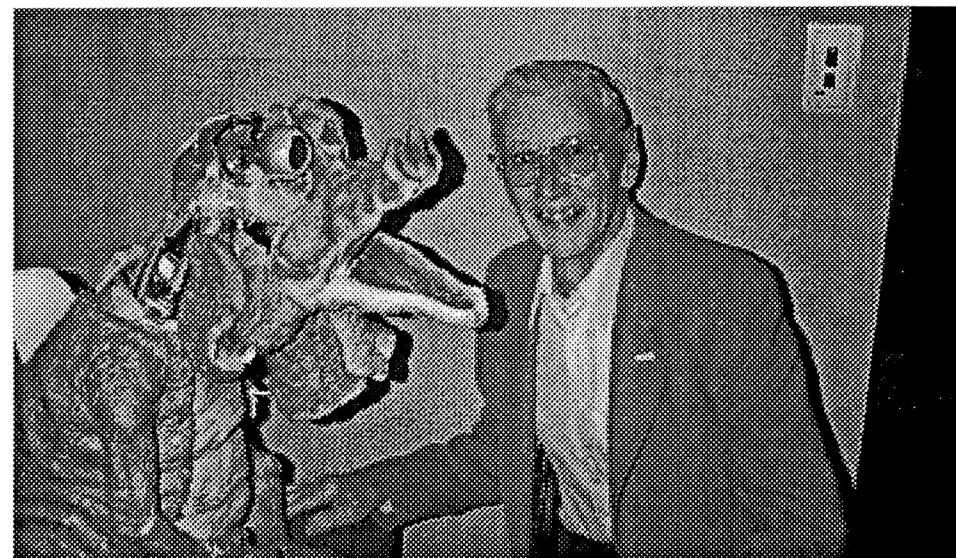
# THE W 3 A A REPORT

The Kenwood 2570 is in! Finally the radio was mounted in the panel, and the antenna was installed. However the antenna was bad, and had to be replaced. But never fear; I had another 2M antenna hidden away, and we are in business. With 70 watts at the ATV position, no more running to the other end of the console to talk to the guys on the intercom frequency.

The 6M Ringo is installed, and the 6M beam is shortly to be installed, thanks to Hal W3HXY who had two 4 element beams in his garage for the last 20 years. Both are rebuilt and ready to install on the roof (told you last month I would make the time).

We need a few good volunteers to help out at the station. The fellows on the week-days are mostly alone, and if one gets sick, sometimes the station is not open. There is also some open time on Saturdays. If you can help out please contact me. REMEMBER ITS YOUR STATION. COME DOWN AND OPERATE IT!!!

Internet: <http://www.fi.edu/tfi/exhibits/w3aa.html>

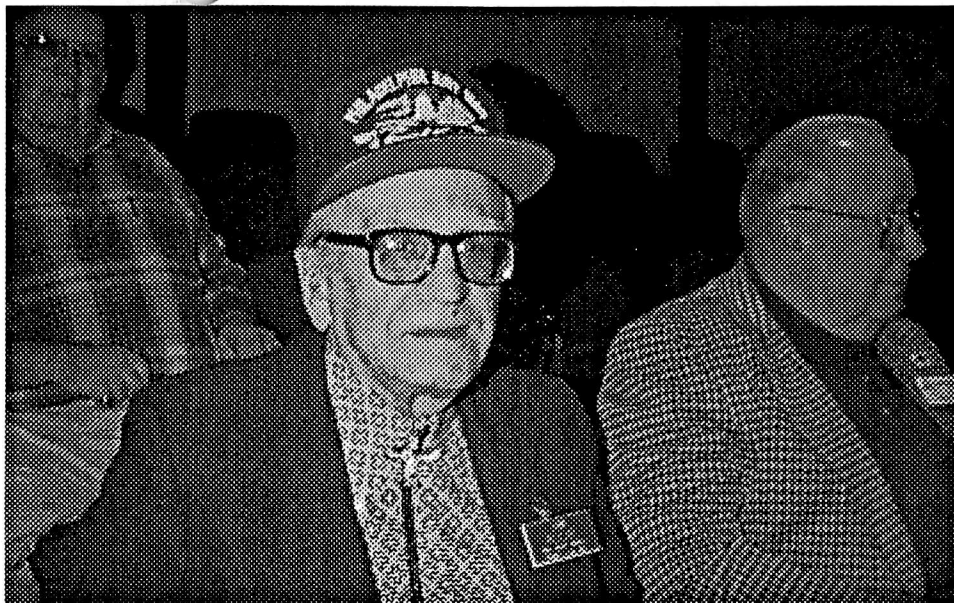


*Hey Jim, lend me your ear!*

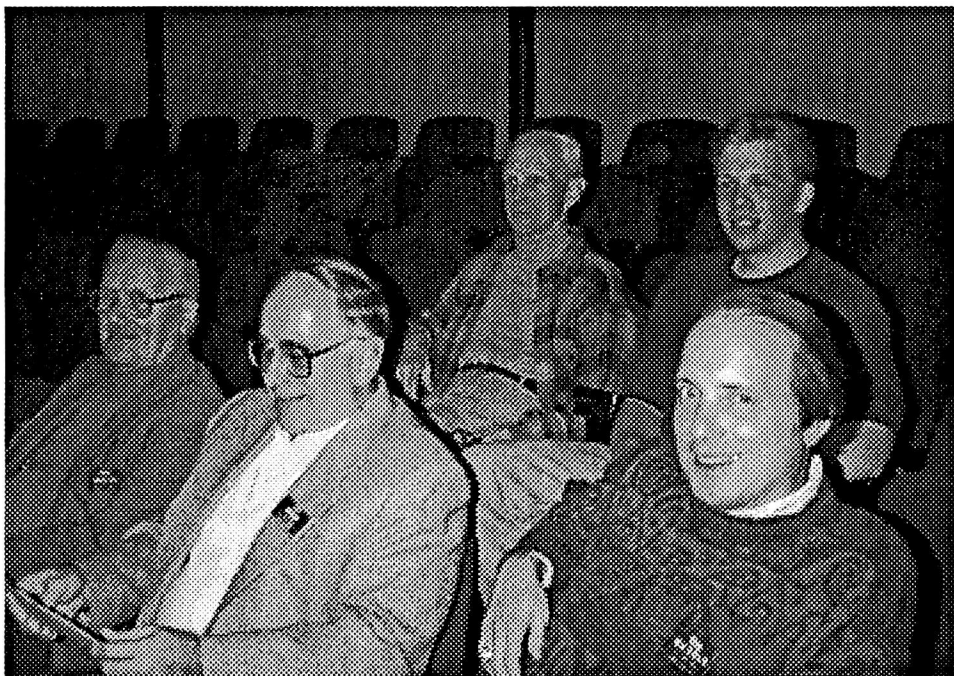


*(by row) 1-W3DSG, Rose; 2-W3PXY, K3JR; 3-N3PSO (hidden); 4-N3QIE, W3ZPP; 5-N3ALW (partially hidden)*





(l-r) N3ALW, N3QIE, W3ZPP



(l-r) W3VVS, W3RM, WE3D, WA3KLR, W2NM

## Useful Acronyms

PCMCIA ----- People Can't Memorize Computer Industry Acronyms  
 ISDN ----- It Still Does Nothing  
 APPLE ----- Arrogance Produces Profit-Losing Entity  
 SCSI ----- System Can't See It  
 DOS ----- Defunct Operating System  
 BASIC ----- Bill's Attempt to Seize Industry Control  
 IBM ----- I Blame Microsoft  
 DEC ----- Do Expect Cuts  
 CD-ROM ----- Consumer Device, Rendered Obsolete in Months  
 OS/2 ----- Obsolete Soon, Too.  
 WWW ----- World Wide Wait  
 MACINTOSH Most Applications Crash; If Not, The Operating System Hangs



## Excerpts from the ARRL Letter, Electronic Edition

The ARRL/VEC—the largest VEC—has nearly 24,000 accredited VEs—18, 500 Extra class and 4700 Advanced class operators.

Scotty Liekette, W8KXX, of San Diego, California, made one of those mistakes that paid off big time! While calling the police to report his car had just been stolen, he remembered he had accidentally left his new project—an APRS car tracker—turned on inside the car. Using his home computer and the WB4APR Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) software, he located his car on the local San Diego map, still sending current GPS position beacons from a location on the other side of the city. Liekette told the police dispatcher he'd spotted his missing car, but the police had a hard time understanding how he could "see" the vehicle across town. When an officer showed up at his door, Liekette showed him the stolen car's symbol with its unique amateur call sign on an APRS city map and the officer relayed the location to police department units.

As Liekette later learned, the stolen car and a police unit stopped at the same red light at that time. The thieves were still in the car! Surprised at the officer's attention, the thieves made an illegal left turn at the light, and the chase was on. Unfortunately, the thieves abandoned the vehicle in the middle of a nearby street and got away. The recovered car had suffered only minor damage.—Tuck Miller, KC6ZEC

### HAM RADIO EXPLORER SCOUTS AID RESCUE

A ham radio team from Explorer Post 80 of Alexandria, Virginia, helped to locate a missing 11-year-old who had gone off exploring on his own during a mid-October Boy Scout Camporee in the Blue Ridge Mountains at New Market, Virginia. The team coordinated a search effort involving six hams, who located the youngster about 20 minutes after he'd been reported missing. However, that wasn't the end of the tale. The boy was stranded on a ledge about 75 feet down the side of a cliff, some 100 feet above the bottom of a stone quarry. He couldn't climb back up, and he couldn't continue down. As sub-freezing temperatures approached, the Scouts called in the local rescue team, which successfully had the youngster out of the quarry and on his way to a local hospital in less than two hours. He was treated and released. The Explorer Post 80 net, presided over by Richard Harmon, KE4POK, continued to monitor the activity and report on its progress until the rescue was completed. For his role, Harmon got a big hug from the missing boy's mother.—Jim Wilson, K4BAV

### ATWATER KENT TIME CAPSULE OPENED

Some vintage radio collectors in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, area got a treat last Friday (October 25) when A. Atwater Kent III, grandson of the famous radio manufacturer of the 1920s and 1930s, opened a time capsule that had been sealed and buried at the Atwater Kent factory in Philadelphia in 1929 by his father and grandfather. Using a

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### In Brief:

\* Yaesu warns about NiMH batteries: Yaesu is advising customers not to use nickel-metal hydride (NiMH) batteries in any of its Amateur Radio hand-held transceivers, and warns that such use could invalidate the warranty. Yaesu says the NiMH batteries—while they look the same as NiCd batteries on the outside—are "completely different" internally. Yaesu says the NiMH batteries "cannot be charged by any Yaesu wall or desk chargers, since these chargers do not prevent overcharging, and nickel-metal hydride batteries become very unstable." Yaesu also says NiMH batteries do not perform well when they are repeatedly discharged at high current rates.

### Editor's note:

If you have e-mail capabilities, you can receive your own copy of the electronic edition of the ARRL Letter, and other automatically distributed information.

For more information, send an e-mail message to: [listserv@netcom.com](mailto:listserv@netcom.com) with the following in the body of the message (the "subject" is ignored):  
subscribe letter-list

Electromagnetic fields don't constitute a threat to human health, according to a National Academy of Sciences panel that spent two years studying the issue. A spokesman said the panel analyzed about 500 studies conducted since 1979, and found no conclusive evidence linking proximity to high-voltage power lines to any disease.

*The Wall Street Journal*

## FACTOID

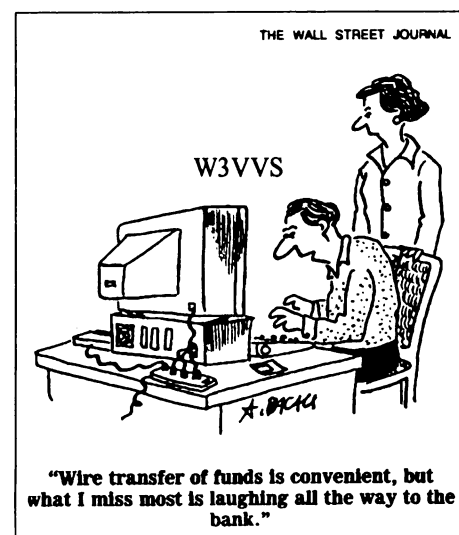
The Franklin Institute Science Museum was founded by scientists and engineers back in the 1800s. It's primary goal was to make the public "technically literate" through its exhibits.

In 1933 the Institute opened at its present location, the corner of 20th Street and The Benjamin Franklin Parkway.

Inside the building, sources report, there are nearly TWO HUNDRED working telephone instruments, connected to WORKING telephone circuits, of modern-day quality. These same circuits are capable of carrying messages throughout the world, to similarly equipped locations, like businesses and homes. Often times these conversations are of a 'personal' nature, and are intercepted by no one.

On Friday, November 8th, WU3I was in a confused state, and apparently unable to locate one of those nearly 200 telephones at the Institute, when he used the repeater to notify his wife that he had "blown a hole in the seat of his trousers" by bending over to pick-up an antenna.

Does anyone have a quarter to lend?





## Ten Ways to Optimize Your Effectiveness in Public Service Events

William L. Continelli, AB2CA

① Make sure your radio is in top operating condition. Small problems (such as loose antenna connections, bad microphones, intermittent operation, etc.) may be just annoying during casual operation, but WILL cause major grief under the continuous/severe service of net/emergency operation. If your radio's not in 100% top shape, buy, beg, or borrow one.

② Don't operate your handheld with it hanging on your belt. Using the radio while it's strapped to your waist reduces your effective radiated power by more than 10 dB. That's a 90% reduction in power! Hold the radio in your hand, with the antenna in the clear.

③ Regarding antennas, those 3" rubber dummy loads may be cute, but you're throwing away 3-6 dB of power when using one. (If your REALLY into math, compute the loss of a 3" rubber dummy load used on a beltclip). A telescoping half-wave has a gain of as much as 10 dB over a 3" rubber duck and quarter-wave has 4-6 dB improvement. Even a 12-15" rubber duck will boost your signal by 3-6 dB over the 3" ones. Remember that one dB can mean the difference in whether or not a critical message gets through.

④ Have charged batteries and spare battery packs! If you also have a dry cell battery case, fill it with alkaline batteries. Make sure you have enough batteries with you to carry you through, even on high power.

⑤ Use headphones or an earphone rather than a speaker/mike. Most earphones will plug directly into your HT. Low cost stereo headphones are widely available and will work perfectly with your HT using a mono to stereo adapter. The headphones also have the advantage of concentrating the communications in your ears, while partially shutting out the outside noise. Headphones will also prolong battery life by allowing the radio to operate at lower audio

output. A speaker/mike is the worst thing you can use—it doesn't cut the outside noise, it doesn't save batteries, and where is that HT while you're using the speaker/mike?? (Hint—see #2!)

⑥ Speak slowly and clearly when transmitting! You may take pride in your ability to run your words together and mumble, but the station on the other end may be in a noisy environment and may not receive your message.

⑦ Check out your ability to use simplex. Even if the operation is being conducted on a repeater, there may be "dead spots", the repeater may go down, or, sad to say, there may be jamming. Even if you can only work the 2 or 3 stations closest to you, a message can still be relayed. To maximize your simplex range, please reread #2 and #3.

⑧ Listen to net control and direct all communication through him/her. Identify your station when calling net control and keep all communications direct and to the point.

⑨ If you must leave the radio or the area to which you have been assigned, first seek permission and acknowledgment from the net control station, make your "time off" as short as possible, and check back in with NCS immediately upon your return.

⑩ Project a good image to the non-hams around you that are part of the event/emergency. This means acting professionally, using basic hygiene skills, etc.

(Please feel free to reprint this in club newsletters, etc., providing credit to the author and "RF Musings", newsletter of the Schenectady Museum Amateur Radio Association - Schenectady, NY. The author can be contacted on the Internet at 103407.3364@compuserve.com or at his FCC database address.)

via AA3CH

huge soldering iron, Ralph Williams, Atwater Kent collector and historian and Kent family friend, undid the soldered seals from the copper box after it was removed from the granite cornerstone. Inside were newspapers of the era plus notes from the senior Kent's speech at the dedication.

But the real "prize" was an Atwater Kent Model 55 radio chassis and instruction manual, still in mint condition, in the bottom of the time capsule. (The Model 55—a weighty, top-of-the-line set—was installed in a number of different cabinet configurations in its day.) The Model 55 used 10 Cunningham "globe" tubes and a separate speaker (not included in the time capsule). The General Services Administration now

owns the old factory, which is being razed to make way for a new building. The contents of the time capsule will initially be displayed in a new structure nearby, housing the Department of Veterans Affairs. Later, the artifacts are to be loaned to the Atwater Kent Museum.

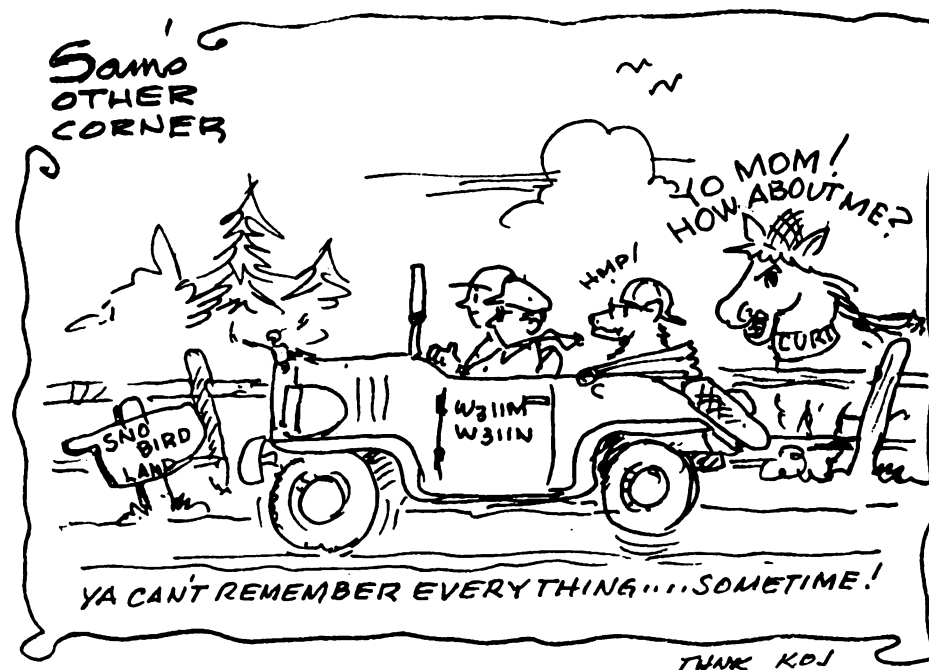
Several members of the New Jersey Antique Radio Club attended the historical event.

[And so did several members of PMRC—ed]

For more information and photographs of the occasion, check the NJARC Web at <http://www.globalnet.net/oldradio>.—John Dilks, K2TQN

Continued on page 15

## There they go again!



1996

## DECEMBER

1996

| SUNDAY                                                                           | MONDAY                                | TUESDAY                                                                                                                       | WEDNESDAY                                                                                                           | THURSDAY                                                                                                                           | FRIDAY                                               | SATURDAY                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b><br>2M NCS N3FTY<br>10M NCS W3HFX<br>75M NCS W3PWG<br><i>Brian's Run</i> | <b>2</b><br><i>Donald Gordon 1936</i> | <b>3</b><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM<br>N3FVI                                                                             | <b>4</b><br>GENERAL MEETING<br>at<br>The Franklin Institute<br>Refreshments at 7:00 p.m.<br>Meeting starts at 7:30. | <b>5</b><br>LICENSE EXAMS<br>at<br>The Franklin Institute<br>Registration begins at 6:00<br>Doors close at 6:30 p.m. <i>sharp!</i> | <b>6</b><br><i>Hanukah</i>                           | <b>7</b><br><i>Pearl Harbor 1941</i>                                                  |
| <b>8</b><br>2M NCS WA3NSP<br>10M NCS W3HFX<br>75M NCS W3STW                      | <b>9</b>                              | <b>10</b> ●<br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM<br>W3RM                                                                           | <b>11</b>                                                                                                           | <b>12</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>13</b><br><i>Triskaidekaphobia Day</i>            | <b>14</b><br><i>Blurb deadline</i>                                                    |
| <b>15</b><br>2M NCS N3OWM<br>10M NCS W3HFX<br>75M NCS AA3CH                      | <b>16</b>                             | <b>17</b><br>CODE PRACTICE<br>NET at 8 PM<br>WA3NSP                                                                           | <b>18</b><br>DIRECTORS'<br>MEETING at<br>W3NE's                                                                     | <b>19</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>20</b>                                            | <b>21</b><br><i>Winter Solstice 9:06am</i>                                            |
| <b>22</b><br>2M NCS W3STW<br>10M NCS W3HFX<br>75M NCS KB3IV                      | <b>23</b>                             | <b>24</b> ○                                                                                                                   | <b>25</b><br><i>Christmas Day</i>                                                                                   | <b>26</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>27</b><br><i>Clinton R. Spencer, Jr.<br/>1923</i> | <b>28</b>                                                                             |
| <b>29</b><br>2M NCS W3BBB<br>10M NCS W3HFX<br>75M NCS W3BBB                      | <b>30</b>                             | <b>31</b><br><br><i>Straight Key Night</i> |                                                                                                                     | "If" and "when"<br>were planted, and<br>"nothing" grew.                                                                            |                                                      |  |